## **Supplementary Information**

Tree height and leaf drought tolerance traits shape growth responses across droughts in a temperate broadleaf forest

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## List of Tables

1	between 1950 and 2009 (driest=1), for focal droughts	2
2	Table S2. Species-specific bark thickness regression equations	3
3	Table S3. Species-specific height regression equations	4
4	Table S4. Individual tests of species traits as drivers of drought resistance, where $Rt$ is used as the response variable	5
5	Table S5. Individual tests of species traits as drivers of drought resistance, where $Rt_{ARIMA}$ is used as the response variable	6
6	Table S6. Summary of top full models for each drought instance, where $Rt$ is used as the response variable	7
7	Table S7. Summary of top models for each drought instance, where $Rt_{ARIMA}$ is used as the response variable	8
$\operatorname{List}$	of Figures	
List	of Figures  Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years prior to each focal drought	9
	Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years	9
1	Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years prior to each focal drought	
1 2	Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years prior to each focal drought	10 11
1 2 3	Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years prior to each focal drought	10 11

Table S1. Monthly Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI), and its rank among all years between 1950 and 2009 (driest=1), for focal droughts.

year	month	PDSI	rank
1966	May	-2.98	2
	June	-3.40	2
	July	-4.08	2
	August	-4.82	1
1977	May	-2.96	3
	June	-3.28	3
	July	-3.61	3
	August	-3.68	3
1999	May	-3.63	1
	$\overline{\mathrm{June}}$	-4.21	1
	July	-4.53	1
	August	-4.64	2

Table S2. Species-specific bark thickness regression equations

Species	Equations	\$R^2\$
Carya cordiformis	ln[B] = -1.56 + 0.416*ln[DBH]	0.226
Carya glabra	ln[B] = -0.393 + 0.268*ln[DBH]	0.040
Carya ovalis	$\ln[B] = -2.18 + 0.651 \ln[DBH]$	0.389
Carya tomentosa	ln[B] = -0.477 + 0.301*ln[DBH]	0.297
Fagus grandifolia	$\ln[B]=1*\ln[DBH]$	
Fraxinus americana	$\ln[B] = 0.418 + 0.268 * \ln[DBH]$	0.256
Juglans nigra	$\ln[B] = 0.346 + 0.279 \ln[DBH]$	0.246
Liriodendron tulipifera	ln[B] = -1.14 + 0.463*ln[DBH]	0.545
Quercus alba	$\ln[B] = -2.09 + 0.637 \ln[DBH]$	0.603
Quercus prinus	$\ln[B] = -1.31 + 0.528 \ln[DBH]$	0.577
Quercus rubra	ln[B] = -0.593 + 0.292*ln[DBH]	0.087

Table S3. Species-specific height regression equations

Species	Equations	X.R.2.
Carya cordiformis	ln[H] = 0.332 + 0.808*ln[DBH]	0.874
Carya glabra	$\ln[H] = 0.685 + 0.691 * \ln[DBH]$	0.841
Carya ovalis	$\ln[H] = 0.533 + 0.741 * \ln[DBH]$	0.924
Carya tomentosa	$\ln[H] = 0.726 + 0.713 \ln[DBH]$	0.897
Fagus grandifolia	$\ln[H] = 0.708 + 0.662 * \ln[DBH]$	0.857
Liriodendron tulipifera	ln[H] = 1.33 + 0.52*ln[DBH]	0.771
Quercus alba	ln[H] = 0.74 + 0.645*ln[DBH]	0.719
Quercus prinus	ln[H] = 0.41 + 0.757*ln[DBH]	0.886
Quercus rubra	ln[H] = 1.00 + 0.574*ln[DBH]	0.755
all	ln[H] = 0.839 + 0.642*ln[DBH]	0.857

Table S4. Individual tests of species traits as drivers of drought resistance, where Rt is used as the response variable.

		all droughts		1966		1977		1999	
variable	category	$\Delta { m AICc}$	coefficients						
xylem porosity	R	-0.80	0.0630	2.29**	0.190	1.92*	-0.152	3.36**	0.1500
	D/SR		0.0000		0.000		0.000		0.0000
PLA	•	6.70	-0.0140	9.13**	-0.025	-0.32	-0.010	-0.95	-0.0070
LMA		-2.01	0.0002	-1.9	0.001	-1.68	-0.002	-2.03	0.0003
$\pi_{tlp}$		1.33	-0.1740	-1.65	-0.107	1.23*	-0.245	-0.1	-0.1690
WD		-1.97	-0.0310	-1.26	-0.206	-1.44	-0.154	0.66	0.2720

Variable abbreviations are as in Table 2.  $\Delta AICc$  is the AICc of a model excluding the trait minus that of the model including it.

<sup>\*</sup> $\Delta {\rm AICc} > 1$ : variable meets  $\Delta {\rm AICc}$  criterion for inclusion in full model

<sup>\*\*</sup> $\Delta AICc > 2$ : variable is considered significant as an individual predictor (and meets  $\Delta AICc$  criterion for inclusion in full model)

Table S5. Individual tests of species traits as drivers of drought resistance, where  $Rt_{ARIMA}$  is used as the response variable.

		all droughts		1966		1977		1999	
variable	category	$\Delta { m AICc}$	coefficients						
xylem porosity	R	-1.47	0.0420	0.95	0.1520	2.84**	-0.171	2.27**	0.155
	D/SR		0.0000		0.0000		0.000		0.000
PLA	,	4.48**	-0.0120	10.15**	-0.0240	-0.9	-0.008	-1.67	-0.005
LMA		-1.99	-0.0003	-2.02	0.0005	-0.42	-0.003	-1.9	0.001
$\pi_{tlp}$		0.42	-0.1510	-1.94	-0.0530	-0.53	-0.179	0.04	-0.200
WD		-1.94	-0.0390	-0.08	-0.3040	-1.57	-0.142	0.83	0.316

Variable abbreviations are as in Table 2.  $\Delta AICc$  is the AICc of a model excluding the trait minus that of the model including it.

<sup>\*\*</sup> $\Delta {\rm AICc} > 2$ : variable considered significant as an individual predictor

Table S6. Summary of top full models for each drought instance, where Rt is used as the response variable.

drought	$\Delta {\rm AICc}$	$R^2$	Intercept	ln[H]	ln[TWI]	ln[H]*ln[TWI]	PLA	$\pi_{tlp}$
all	0.000	0.12	1.131	-0.057	-0.086	-	-0.012	-0.113
	0.583	0.11	1.423	-0.055	-0.086	-	-0.013	-
	0.726	0.12	1.537	-0.202	-0.326	0.082	-0.012	-0.114
	1.352	0.11	1.826	-0.198	-0.324	0.081	-0.013	-
1966	0.000	0.25	1.622	-0.135	-	-	-0.025	-
1977	0.000	0.22	0.503	_	-0.144	_	_	-0.24
	0.908	0.21	1.069	_	-0.144	_	_	_
	0.988	0.22	0.568	-0.03	-0.139	_	_	-0.246
	1.144	0.24	0.684	_	-0.142	-	-0.007	-0.204
	1.267	0.22	1.211	-	-0.141	-	-0.01	-
1999	0.000	0.18	1.061	_	-0.102	_	_	_
1000	0.023	0.19	0.659	_	-0.101	_	_	-0.169
	0.954	0.19	1.157	_	-0.1	_	-0.007	-
	1.513	0.21	0.783	_	-0.1	_	-0.005	-0.145
	1.803	0.18	1.024	0.013	-0.103	_	-	-
	1.901	0.19	0.635	0.011	-0.102	-	-	-0.166

Models are ranked by AICc. Shown are all models whose AICc value falls within 2.0 ( $\Delta$ AICc<1) of the best model (bold).  $R^2$  refers to conditional  $R^2$ . Year was included in the model for all drought years, but its effect was not included in any top models, and coefficients were small (1966: 0, 1977: -0.019, 1999: -0.005; same values in all top models).

Table S7. Summary of top models for each drought instance, where  $Rt_{ARIMA}$  is used as the response variable.

drought	$\Delta { m AICc}$	$R^2$	Intercept	ln[H]	ln[TWI]	ln[H]*ln[TWI]	PLA	$\pi_{tlp}$	(1 sp)[novariables]
all	0.000	0.09	1.125	-0.307	-0.506	0.140	-0.012		
	0.425	0.10	0.879	-0.310	-0.508	0.140	-0.011	-0.096	
	1.208	0.09	0.424	-0.060	-0.100		-0.012		
	1.695	0.10	0.178	-0.061	-0.100		-0.011	-0.095	
1966	0.000	0.23	1.660	-0.154			-0.024		
	1.393	0.23	1.735	-0.152	-0.047		-0.024		
	1.457	0.23	1.859	-0.152	0.02,		-0.025	0.078	
1977	0.000	0.16	1.130		-0.180				
1011	0.424	0.16	2.453	-0.461	-0.896	0.250			
	0.424	0.10	0.720	-0.401	-0.179	0.250		-0.173	
	0.922	0.17	2.040	-0.466	-0.173	0.251		-0.110	
	0.927	0.17	1.248	0.100	-0.177	0.201	-0.008	0.100	
	1.322	0.17	2.569	-0.461	-0.893	0.250	-0.008		
	1.709	0.15	1.183	-0.020	-0.177	0.230	0.000		
1999	0.000	0.20	0.563		-0.076			-0.200	
1000	0.064	0.19	0.421		-0.010			-0.202	
	0.004 $0.127$	0.13	1.036		-0.077			-0.202	
	0.256	0.18	1.000		0.011				0.899
	1.777	0.20	0.529	0.016	-0.078			-0.195	0.000
	1.797	0.20	1.101	0.010	-0.076		-0.004	0.100	
	1.815	0.18	0.986	0.018	-0.079		0.001		
	1.838	0.20	0.972	0.0-0			-0.005		
	1.933	0.19	0.391	0.012			- 000	-0.199	
	1.979	0.21	0.612		-0.075		-0.002	-0.190	
	1.999	0.21	0.482				-0.002	-0.190	

Models are ranked by AICc. Shown are all models whose AICc value falls within 2.0 ( $\Delta$ AICc<1) of the best model (bold).  $R^2$  refers to conditional  $R^2$ . Year was included in the model for all drought years, but its effect was not included in any top models, and coefficients were small (1966: 0, 1977: -0.03, 1999: 0.008; same values in all top models).

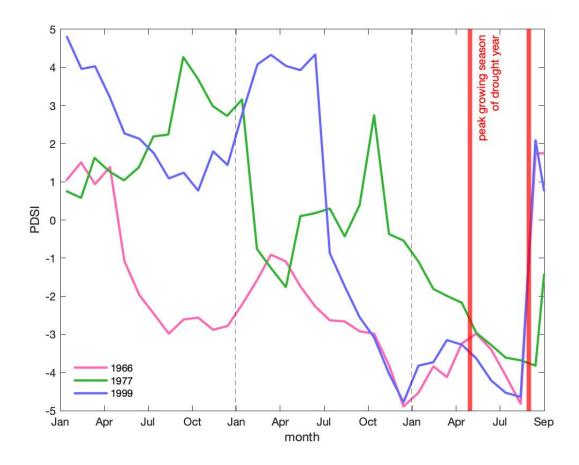


Figure S1. Time series of Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI) for the 2.5 years prior to each focal drought



Figure S2. Map of ForestGEO plot showing topographic wetness index and location of cored trees

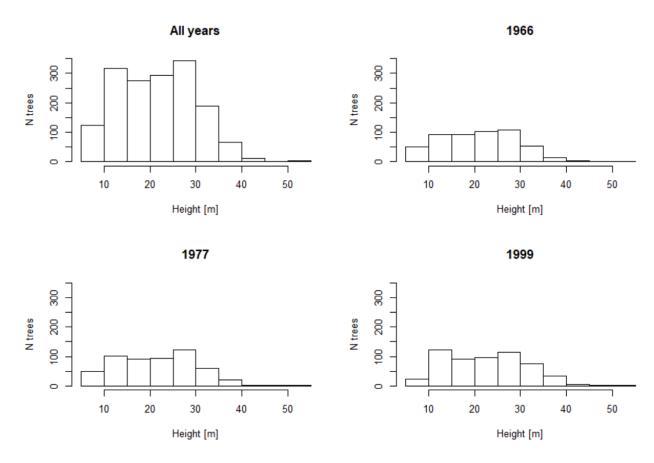


Figure S3. Distribution of reconstructed tree heights across drought years.

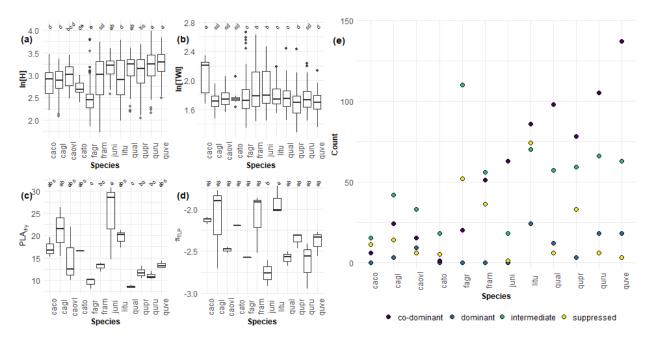


Figure S4. Distribution of independent variables by species. Species that are assigned the same letter are not significantly different from each other with regard to the tested variable.

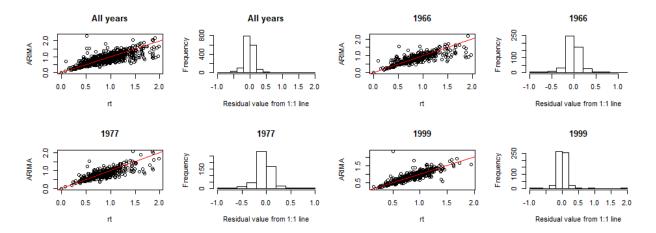


Figure S5. Comparison of Rt and  $Rt_{ARIMA}$  results, with residuals, for each drought scenario

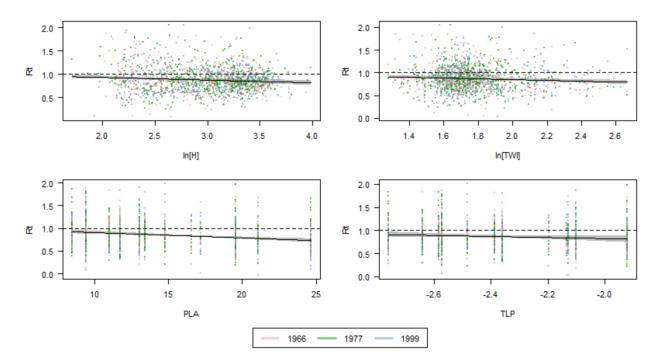


Figure S6. Visualization of best model, with data, for all droughts combined. Model coefficients are given in Table S6.

## **Further Package Citations**

While there were several R-packages we used for a specific purpose in our methods, numerous packages were immensely helpful for this research behind the scenes. As in all of science, this study is a representation of the work done by both the authors of this paper as well as countless others. While acknowledging everyone is impossible, we want to at least give thanks to those who made this work possible.

R-packages not already cited in the main manuscript include the following, listed alphabetically by corresponding package name:

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